

Apprenticeship Illinois June 2022 Quarterly Report

Charges of the Apprenticeship Committee

1. Fully integrate apprenticeship into state workforce development, education, and economic development strategies and programs.
2. Support the rapid development of new apprenticeship programs and/or the significant expansion of existing programs.
3. Support the development and recruitment of a diverse pipeline of apprentices.
4. Build state capacity to make it easier for businesses to start apprenticeship programs and for apprentices to access opportunities.

Priorities of the Apprenticeship Committee

The committee focuses on providing leadership for:

1. Expanding apprenticeships geographically and to new industries.
2. Increasing diversity, equity, and inclusion in apprenticeship.
3. Formalizing statewide apprenticeship coordination across partnering state agencies.
4. Growing statewide capacity to provide apprenticeship opportunities to job seekers and businesses.

Quarterly Update

Background: Illinois is one of the 23/ 50 states in the country that are US Department of Labor (USDOL) Office of Apprenticeship (OA) states. This requires that all registered apprenticeship programs are approved by the USDOL Regional Office of Apprenticeship. Registered apprenticeship data is entered into the Registered Apprenticeship Partners Information Management Data System (RAPIDS), which was created and managed by the USDOL. This database does not include information on non-registered apprenticeship programs or pre-apprenticeship programs.

Apprenticeship Illinois Statistics: US Department of Labor RAPIDS Report as of June 2022

Total Number of Programs	521
New Programs in FY22	22
Total Number of Apprentices	17,016
New Apprentices in FY22	3,959

** Statistics provided by the USDOL Office of Apprenticeship in Illinois**

Apprenticeship Grants

State Apprenticeship Expansion

Under the 2019-2020 Apprenticeship Expansion Program, the state awarded approximately \$5 million to 25 grantees acting as Navigators and Intermediaries with a goal of serving 800 new registered apprentices and developing 30 new registered apprenticeship programs.

As of the June 2022, Apprenticeship Illinois Navigators and Intermediaries had served just short of 1,000 individuals, with more than 550 of those individuals having entered into Registered Apprenticeship (RA) programs verified through the RAPIDS system. They have also engaged with over 1,600 businesses—assisting with the development of 63 new RA programs and expanding over 50 existing programs.

Total Number of Individuals Served Under the SAE Grant

- Cumulative Total as of this Quarter (Q2 2022)- 1,000.

Total Number of Registered Apprentices Served Under the SAE Grant

- Cumulative Total as of this Quarter (Q2 2022)- 550.

The number of RAs reported is likely lower than the actual number as Illinois consistently has difficulty accessing the RAPIDS system. Illinois is working with the U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) Federal Project Officer from the regional office to ameliorate this situation and get more apprenticeships registered through RAPIDS.

Statistics provided by the Center for Governmental Studies at Northern Illinois University

ICCS CAP-IT Grant

ICCS was awarded a \$4M federal grant from USDOL for a four-year initiative to serve more than 1,600 apprentices in pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs that will lead to employment in Information Technology. 10 Illinois Colleges are a part of this program and have developed or expanded a customized IT apprenticeship pathway. The colleges work with local companies to design the apprenticeship programs.

Colleges Included: City Colleges of Chicago, College of Lake County, Illinois Central College, Kishwaukee College, Lincoln Land Community College, Oakton Community College, Parkland Community College, Rend Lake Community College, Richland Community College, and Joliet Junior College.

Programmatic and participant progress statistics for this program can be found in the tables below.

Participant's Progress	
Total Participants served.	971
Total apprentices that are hired by an employer and enrolled in an apprenticeship education/training program.	154
Total apprentices who complete an apprenticeship education/training program.	77
Total apprentices who complete a program and receive a degree or other credential.	77
Total number of unemployed or underemployed apprentices prior to enrollment who complete an apprenticeship program and maintain their employment status with current/new employer (excluding incumbent workers).	21
Total number of incumbent worker apprentices who complete a program and advance to a new position, with their current employer or with a new one.	51

Programmatic Progress	Through Dec 2021	Goal (by end of year 4)
Total number of newly created apprenticeship programs, including Registered Apprenticeship programs.	51	53
Total number of employers engaged.	47	92
Total number of expanded apprenticeship programs, including Registered Apprenticeship programs.	25	60

** Statistics provided by ICCS at the WIOA Summit 2022- more information can be found [here](#). **

Marketing Workgroup

Objective: Continue to expand brand awareness for Apprenticeship Illinois through strategic marketing and outreach.

Meetings: First Thursday of the month, 2:00–3:00pm.

The Marketing workgroup has successfully redesigned and launched several new social media accounts- LinkedIn, Twitter, and Facebook.

The Facebook account was created early this year and has already reached 160 followers with posts reaching over 1,000 people. The Twitter account was recreated less than one month ago and has reached 13 followers. The lack of interaction on Twitter can be attributed to the instability of the site's ownership as across the platform, participant numbers have decreased. The LinkedIn account had 269 connections in the previous quarter and has nearly doubled at 530 connections presently. These accounts are updated often to maintain a strong presence of apprenticeship throughout the state and even beyond state lines.

Research supports the use of Instagram and TikTok for use in marketing to the targeted age groups of apprenticeships therefore accounts on both platforms are being prepared for launch by early August.

This workgroup has also developed a first-draft timeline for planning National Apprenticeship Week (NAW) which includes a detailed social media schedule, daily webinars, and a tentative plan for themed-sector days.

The Marketing workgroup continues to collaborate with the Pre-Apprenticeship and Youth Apprenticeship workgroups to develop a landing page for each workgroup on the Apprenticeship Illinois website.

Traffic to the Apprenticeship Illinois website has been considerably lower in 2021 and 2022 than in 2020. See the table below for specific details.

Apprenticeship Illinois Website Statistics			
2020 Total Unique Visits	Total Unique Visits as of June 2021	2021 Total Unique Visits	Total Unique Visits as of June 2022
42,905	14,477	26,577	13,756

Information provided by Southern Illinois University's Center for Workforce Development- Illinois workNet

Despite the reduction in traffic, 30-50 people request to be added to the Apprenticeship Illinois Monthly Updates email list which is sent out to over 1,000 people every month on the 15th. The May updates can be found [here](#). The website continues to be a top priority for the Marketing workgroup.

Pre-Apprenticeship Workgroup

Objective: Expand pre-apprenticeship opportunities statewide and in multiple sectors.

Meetings: Every other month on the last Thursday of the month. Next meeting: July 28th, 2022, 10:00-11:30am.

After successfully finalizing a comprehensive definition of “Pre-Apprenticeship”, this group moved to developing a document that will outline the major barriers to the expansion of pre-apprenticeship as well as multiple suggestions for overcoming said barriers.

As of this report, the group has identified five barriers to expansion. These barriers will be confirmed at the next meeting. Recommendations will be presented by group members at the next meeting as well.

Youth Apprenticeship Workgroup

Objective: Facilitate expansion of quality Youth Apprenticeships in Illinois.

Meetings: When in session, this group meets monthly on the second Wednesday from 9:00-10:30am.

The Youth Apprenticeship workgroup has paused monthly meetings for the summer to focus on content development for their landing page on the Apprenticeship Illinois website. Prior to this recess, the group was focused on implementing the next step suggestions from the *Barriers and Next Steps for Expansion of Youth Apprenticeship* document which was presented to the Committee last Winter.

Upcoming Events and Meetings

Apprenticeship Illinois Marketing Workgroup Meeting- July 7th, 2022, 2:00-3:00pm;
August 4th, 2022, 2:00-3:00pm; September 1st, 2022, 2:00-3:00pm

Apprenticeship Illinois Pre-Apprenticeship Workgroup Meeting- July 28th, 2022,
10:00-11:30am; September 29th, 2022, 10:00-11:30am.

Apprenticeship Illinois Committee Meeting- September 15th, 2022, 9:00am-11:00am.